

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 215

Credits: 3

Course Title: Creative Writing—Fiction I

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)

Introduces, in a workshop setting, the fundamentals and techniques of writing short and long fiction. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

ENG 215 includes both the study and practice of fiction techniques, including plot, characterization, dialogue, setting, tone, point of view, theme, voice, and revision. Students will complete both informal and formal writing assignments, and will analyze selected published and non-published fiction. Workshops and peer evaluation will provide class and instructor critiques for students' writing.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)

ENG 111 or approval by the English program head.

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Write a variety of fiction exercises in many styles and on many subjects.
- b. Write at least two full-length, developed short stories.
- c. Understand and apply the fundamental elements of fiction to their own writing.
- d. Learn the importance of revision in fiction writing and apply this understanding to their own work.
- e. Develop the ability to critique fiction from the perspective of the writer and to apply this ability to both published and student work.
- f. Learn to market student fiction by examining sources for publication.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. Practice in writing fiction, including the completion of informal and formal writing assignments.
- b. Introduction to the techniques of writing fiction, including plot, characterization, dialogue, setting, tone, point of view, theme, and voice.
- c. Practice in revising fiction.
- d. Analysis of selected published and non-published fiction.
- e. Class and instructor critique of student's writings through class workshops and peer evaluation.

Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year): February 13, 2009